

PHEASANTS IN OREGON.

The Numerous Progeny of Those Brought from China a Few Years Ago.

The history of this interesting and valuable game bird on this coast has never been written. Everyone knows now that it was imported by Judge O. N. Denny, and that it has spread throughout Oregon and Washington until it is numbered by the thousands and probably hundreds of thousands. Some day perhaps its history will be traced. Meanwhile the chief incidents in its career are of interest, says the Portland Oregonian.

It was in 1880 that Judge Denny, then United States consul at Shanghai, sent over the first lot of Chinese or Mongolian pheasants. There were seventy of them, and they were sent over in a sailing vessel bound for Puget sound. With them were sent explicit instructions as to their handling in reshipping to Portland, as the cocks and hens should be kept separate, and only a certain limited number in each crate, etc. But the reshipping was carelessly done, so that of the whole number only eighteen survived, fifteen cocks and three hens, a proportion which the sender would have liked to see reversed. They were very unwisely put on Sauvie's island, the place of all others to which sportsmen then, as now, resorted. Yet so industriously did they propagate that they soon were common sights in Multnomah county. A few went into Washington county. Some crossed the Columbia to the then territory of Washington. Since then they have spread north to the sound and in various parts of Washington. All the pheasants in the state of Washington are credited to this first beginning, the three hens which survived the first shipment of seventy in 1880.

Having heard of the bad luck which attended the first venture, Judge Denny in 1881 sent over twenty-eight more—eighteen hens and ten cocks. These were sent to Portland and to the charge of Judge Denny's brother, who lived at Washington Butte, Linn county. He took proper care of them and put them adrift near his place. From there they have gone into southern Oregon, and, as Judge Denny thinks, have crossed the Cascade mountains and appeared in Eastern Oregon, while the Willamette valley is full of them.

Judge Denny was home in 1882 and visited the legislature in session at Salem. His presence induced Judge Truitt, now of Alaska, then a member of the house, to prepare a bill for the protection of the pheasant. With such marked favor was the project received that the bill was advanced by unanimous consent through its three readings and passed promptly, the same courtesy being extended it in the senate.

This provided absolute protection for the birds for five years. Before the five years had expired the protection was extended five more, making ten in all. Then they were placed on the same footing as the other pheasants, though the season is a little different.

What the Denny pheasant needs now is a shorter season and a law prohibit-

ing entirely hunting it for the market. Warden McGuire has no doubt that thirteen thousand Mongolian pheasants were taken in Linn county alone by pot-hunters last season. There is money in the sport, as the birds bring a dollar and a half a dozen. This is not sport. It is butchering as a business.

A LOST PEOPLE.

The Belles of a Lost Race Discovered on the Coast of Brittany.

A lady whose home is in the south of France writes of a visit she made recently to an island on the coast of Brittany. Those of you who have read the story of King Arthur and his knights will remember that they started out over the sea in pursuit of the dragon.

In this—the Morbihan sea—is a little island which can be reached from the mainland only when the water is smooth. The sole inhabitant is a Breton shepherd, who lives in a little hut and spends his time in caring for his sheep. The party landed and were met by the kind-faced old man, who led them over the grassy slope where his flock was feeding, and showed them the way around a bill, on the east side of which they found the entrance to a tunnel.

This extended some distance, and its floor, sides and roof were made of immense flat pieces of stone, covered with hieroglyphs and figures, "looking somewhat like wreaths and again like coiled serpents." At the end of this tunnel was a hall, also floored, roofed and walled with the same curious stones, and in the center was an altar and a stone upon which, it is thought, that human sacrifices have been offered.

The strange part of all is that no stones nor rocks like those used in this tunnel can be found on the island, and at no place nearer than a hundred miles inland. Who brought them? How did they come? There is no record left—at least none has been found, to tell who these people were, or anything about them.

They must have lived many centuries ago, but have vanished entirely, yet their work is as perfect apparently as when first built.

It is thought that they may have been Druids, who came here when they left Great Britain; others, again, think that they were worshippers of the serpent god called Hea. But it is conjecture. All we know is that the stones are here, strangely carved, skillfully put together, but of their builders there is no trace.

Soap in Tablets.

There are novelties even in soap. The last are soap tablets, that come in pretty satin-lined and covered boxes. The soap is put up in small tablets, like lozenges—a very convenient form. A cake of soap is always tobogganing into unlooked-for corners and slipping away, when it ought to be most useful. These little tablets are also convenient to travelers, because they do away with the necessity for carrying a soap box. They get rid away with the need of having soap at all.

TO REMOVE STAINS.

TAKE ink stains from a carpet with Javelle water.

DIP an iron rusted spot in tartaric acid and hang in the sun.

REMOVE ink from white goods with oxalic acid, and then warm water.

RUB a fruit stain with yellow soap, putting on wet starch, and hanging in the sun several days.

TAKE out paint from a garment by wetting with benzine, rubbing with a woolen cloth, then wetting and rubbing again.

FOR taking all stains out of fine clothing, apply benzine in a circle around the spot, working to the center and sponging off.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

IN 1893 3,341 ships, of 7,659,000 tons, passed through the Suez canal.

SIXTY-THREE million francs were collected in dues from ships passing through the canal last year.

OF the 3,341 ships 186,495 passengers were carried, yielding an income of 1,864,000.

OF the 3,341 ships the English sailed 2,405, German 272, French 190, Dutch 178, Austria-Hungarian 71, Italian 67.

THE Norwegian sailed exactly half a hundred, the Ottoman 34, Spanish 29, Russian 24, Portuguese 10, Egyptian 5, American 3, Belgian 1, Brazilian 1, Japanese 1.

BITS OF SCIENCE.

FALLING snowflakes bring with them all the floating dust of the air, leaving the atmosphere extremely pure.

THE skeleton of a "whale lizard" brought from Alaska by the steamer City of Topoka weighs twenty-four hundred pounds.

OUR sun, with his train of attendant planets, is traveling through space at the unthinkable speed of eighteen miles per second.

ACCORDING to Withof an area of a quarter of an inch contains 293 hairs on the head, 39 on the chin, 23 on the forearm and 19 on the back of the hand.

DELICIOUS AND DAINTY.

Egg lemonade is a delicious drink.

CREAM peppermints leed or coated with chocolate are one of the popular confections.

THE best way to serve after-dinner coffee if the day is very warm is to freeze it. Freeze as you do sherbets.

ICED TEA.—Fill glasses partly full of ice; make tea double strength and pour, boiling hot, over ice. Add lemon and sugar to taste.

A RAILROAD crane is used in Dennison, Tex., has a gauge on the cylinder which, with a little computation, shows the weight of any article lifted.

SMOKELESS powder has been followed by a chemical combination called "fog creator." A German named Kellin is the inventor. It is a shell which when it explodes enshrouds in darkness the troops at whom it is aimed. It also causes soldiers to cough.